

Sinclair  
Broadcasting's  
decision to force  
their stations to  
air an anti-Kerry  
documentary days  
before the election  
is a clear example  
of the dangers of  
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the  
public airwaves free  
of charge, and is  
obligated by law to  
serve the public  
interest. But when  
large companies  
control the  
airwaves, we get  
more of what's good  
for the bottom line  
and less of what we  
need for our  
democracy. Instead  
of something  
produced at "News  
Central" far away,  
it's more important  
that we see real  
people from our own  
communities and more  
substantive news  
about issues that  
matter.

Sinclair's idea of  
balanced and  
objective coverage  
is to invite Senator  
Kerry to appear on  
the show and respond  
to the lies and  
propaganda that is  
being perpetuated by  
them. In reality,  
Sinclair's past  
record has shown a  
clear political  
agenda. A  
documentary based  
not on factual  
knowledge, but  
questionable rumors  
is hardly a news  
item, and therefore  
should not be billed  
so.

Sinclair's actions  
show why we need to  
strengthen media  
ownership rules, not  
weaken them. They  
show why the license

renewal process  
needs to involve  
more than a returned  
postcard. Thank you.